

Pre-Application Notice 623-02-026

Sudan Peace Fund

Description

The Regional Contracting Office within REDSO/ESA (Nairobi, Kenya) invites firms and organizations to submit "activity design and implementation" proposals for a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to provide sub-grants, technical assistance (TA), and commodity procurement. These inputs are required over an anticipated three year period to implement USAID's Sudan Peace Fund (the "Fund"; currently expected to not exceed \$10 million) as a mechanism to: 1) facilitate grassroots people-to-people reconciliations; 2) deliver sustainable economic rehabilitation to communities that have reconciled their differences and made peace; 3) deliver quick-response peace dividends in the immediate aftermath of peace accords; and 4) support non-grassroots peace processes on a case-by-case basis.

The Fund is in response to the civil war in Sudan which has raged for 34 of the 45 years since its independence. The war has been the central focus of political life throughout the country. It has caused significant loss of life, mass population displacement, economic decline, and severely hindered Sudan's capacity to develop as a nation. Repeated efforts to reach a solution among Sudanese have only resulted in a return to war; however, there is growing demand to revitalize and successfully conclude the regional peace process, since this offers the most promising means to finally realize an end to the world's longest running complex emergency.

The Fund will be undertaken in the context of the U.S. Government's strategy to increase the self-reliance of Sudanese to mitigate conflicts, rehabilitate their economy and communities, and better prepare for an eventual transition to lasting peace. The emphasis on self-reliance means that assistance programs in Sudan are implemented, to the greatest extent possible, through local communities and organizations, and they rely on these local institutions to make major decisions regarding rehabilitation projects.

The following are illustrative examples of the four principle initiatives identified above:

1. Facilitate grassroots people-to-people reconciliations: Working through local civil society organizations as full partners, the Cooperative Agreement recipient would facilitate the process of inter-ethnic reconciliations. Specific activities could include support to peace workers promoting reconciliations, provision of logistics and transport for meetings, provision of TA in the establishment of local peace councils, and support for the publication and dissemination of the results of peace meetings to the communities involved.

2. Consolidate grassroots people-to-people reconciliations: The recipient would provide rapid mobilization and delivery of economic and social rehabilitation projects, e.g., markets, schools, courts, water and sanitation facilities, and radios to monitor implementation of the accords. These would be done in an appropriate manner, i.e., quick mobilization to discuss the rehabilitation with the community; facilitation of the community's process for establishing their own governance structures for managing the rehabilitated resources, including their own methods for financing all (i.e. 100%) of the costs of maintenance and future capital improvements; rehabilitation and/or reconstruction utilizing local labor and resources, if possible; and then final delivery of the rehabilitated resource in a hand-over ceremony to the local management structure.

3. Rapid delivery of peace dividends: The recipient would assure the quick delivery of peace dividends (e.g., water and sanitation facilities, schools, health clinics, courts, etc.) so that communities see a visible physical improvement in their lives within a few weeks of completing the reconciliation. These quick delivery peace dividends would not, in most instances, be done in the sustainable method described above but rather as a quick response to the reconciling

communities. Issues of sustainable management of the newly rehabilitated facilities could then be discussed and resolved within the community.

4. Other support to grassroots peace processes: On an *ad hoc* basis, the recipient would provide logistical and technical support for grassroots peace processes, including research, special studies, transport and administrative support for peace conferences, etc.

Once the RFA is issued, all questions related to the RFA must be addressed in writing by letter, fax or e-mail to the below contact points, with reference to the RFA number and title and your complete organization name, street address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address. The RFA is projected to be issued in May. It is the responsibility of the party downloading the RFA to ensure that it has been received in its entirety, and USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from the transmission or conversion processes. Any amendments to the RFA also will be posted on the internet, and interested parties should check the website regularly. The publication of this notice or the RFA does not obligate the U.S. Government to make an award.

Note: In accordance with 31 CFR Part 501 and 31 CFR Part 538 prospective organizations must be licensed with the U.S. Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control in order to be engaged in developmental and humanitarian assistance activities in Sudan. A license is not required prior to submitting an application. Organizations wishing to apply for a license may do so by submitting the required information to:

Compliance Programs Division
Office for Foreign Assets Control
U.S. Department of Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20220

NAICS: 541611, Order of Magnitude Threshold: (Estimated) Not to Exceed \$ 10 Million,
Competition Level: Full and Open and Numbered/Non-Numbered Note(s): Are Not Applicable.

Point of Contact

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Place of Performance

Southern Sudan